

## REPORT

ON

## NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 21st October 1905.

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CONFIDENTIAL

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# NATIVE PAPERS IN THE

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## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Roznama-i-Mukaddas Hablul Mateen* [Calcutta] of the 2nd October has the following:—

ROZNAMA-I-MUKADDAS  
HABULUL MATEEN  
Oct. 2nd, 1905.

The Persian politics.

On account of the recent Anglo-Japanese treaty, a change is coming over the political horizon of Europe. It seems that Russia and Germany, the two big rivals of England, whose political and commercial interests are interwoven with each other, have made or will make a joint effort to counteract the evil effects of the above treaty. England in accordance with that treaty shall have to strengthen her strategical points in the Persian Gulf, in the frontiers of Beluchistan, and if possible, in Seistan. In fact the treaty, if no regard is paid to its other advantages, means the ruin of Persia. She ought to establish political relations with Japan, so that the effect of the treaty may not be injurious to her.

2. The *Roznama-i-Mukaddas Hablul Mateen* [Calcutta] of the 16th October

ROZNAMA-I-MUKADDAS  
HABULUL MATEEN  
Oct. 16th, 1905.

The Helmond question.

makes the following comment upon the *Pioneer's* article on the Helmond question:—

We have simply given a correct translation of the text which appeared in the *Pioneer* paper. The writer of this article, who was one of the members of the Helmond Boundary Commission, makes no mention of Persia's objection to accept the decision of the Commission. The English papers say that the terms were favourable to Persia, and her non-acceptance of them therefore would mean a loss to her. Some of these papers, in order to kill two birds with one shot, go the length of magnifying the military strength of Afghanistan in comparison with that of Persia, and persuade the latter not to quarrel with her neighbour. This statement is of course very discouraging to Persia. It is still unknown what the object of the English and Russian Ambassadors' visit to Meshed was.

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (a)—Police.

3. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 17th October writes that an application

SANDHYA,  
Oct. 17th, 1905.

Allegations against a police daroga in Jalpaiguri.

was some time ago made to the Deputy Commissioner of Jalpaiguri alleging that Reazuddin Muhammad, the daroga of the Debiganj out-post in that district, had enticed away and was then living in adultery with the wife of a Mussalman of the place. The Deputy Commissioner forwarded this complaint for inquiry to Babu Narendra Nath Sen, an Honorary Magistrate of the Debiganj Bench, who reported that the allegation was correct. After waiting for a time, and seeing that no summons or notice had issued from the Courts, the complainant submitted a fresh petition to the Deputy Commissioner. This time also no orders were passed on the petition. Subsequently, it appeared that the petition had been handed on to the District Superintendent of Police. All this took place some time ago. Meanwhile the daroga is openly taking the woman in question from place to place and living with her. He has also got her to put in a statement before the Deputy Commissioner saying that she wished to live by prostitution.

## (b)—Working of the Courts.

4. The *Aryavarta* [Ranchi] of the 7th October notices the case in which

ARYAVARTA,  
Oct. 7th, 1905.

An extraordinary punishment.

the Deputy Magistrate of Dumka was censured by the local High Court for punishing a man for peeping into his Court-room.

## (d)—Education.

5. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 16th October writes as follows:—

SANDHYA,  
Oct. 16th, 1905.

A rumour concerning students.

It is rumoured that the dwarfed Lieutenant-Governor of Western Bengal has become extremely angry with Bengali students for having joined the *swadeshi* movement, and has ordered Professors of Colleges and Teachers of Schools to submit to him names of such patriotic boys as have given offence by joining that movement. If Professors of Colleges fail to carry out this order, they will be made special constables, and, if they still continue refractory, their Colleges will be dis-affiliated. This rumour is current among the leading men in Calcutta, and if it



is true it will give rise to a very serious state of things. On the one hand the *swadeshi* movement is not a political movement, on the other it constitutes no offence in law to take part in it. Professors of Colleges will not, therefore, consent to go against their boys, and they will rather resign their services than submit to the insult of being made special constables. Our Lieutenant-Governor becomes a smaller man from to-day, and there is a possibility of his intellect also becoming smaller. But we hope this possibility will pass away and our dwarfed Lieutenant-Governor will return to his good sense.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

SANDHYA,  
Oct. 14th, 1905.

6. It is rumoured, says the *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 14th October, that the *Mohanta* of Tarkeshwar in the Hooghly district, has been purchasing zamindaris with income of the shrine of which he is the trustee. He is also reported to be committing oppressions on holders of Brahmottar lands and on other tenants of his. The Magistrate of Hooghly is requested to enquire into the matter.

(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
Oct. 15th, 1905.

7. A correspondent of the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 15th October offers the following criticisms and suggestions in connexion with the train-service on the East Indian Railway:—

(1) The abolition of the loop-line train which formerly used to leave Howrah in the morning has made it impossible for passengers travelling with ladies and children and invalids to reach any of the stations of the loop-line in the day-time. This is a serious inconvenience, specially in view of the approach of the cold season.

(2) Also, with the abolition of this train, the trains available for journey in the morning from stations like Simlagarh, Boinchee, Rasulpur and Suktigar to Burdwan have been reduced to two only, viz., No. 21 up and No. 23 up. Of these two, again, No. 23 up does not run on Sundays.

On that day, next train available after No. 21 up is the No. 17 up, which comes up after an interval of over four hours. An intermediate train-service here would be an advantage.

(3) On Sunday mornings, at stations like Baidyabati, Bhadreswar, Man-kunda, &c., where No. 7 up through train does not touch, there is no train available during the long interval between 6-30 A.M. and 11 A.M.

(4) There is no train in the evenings after No. 33 Bandel Local leaves Howrah till 11 o'clock in the night. A passenger train running up to Burdwan or Bandel should be arranged to leave Howrah just after the Punjab mail leaves at 9-30 P.M.

(5) The train from Barakar, which used to arrive at Howrah at 3 P.M., and which has now been discontinued, should be revived.

(h)—General.

GHAR BANDHU,  
Oct. 1st, 1905.

8. It is true, says the *Ghar Bandhu* [Ranchi] of the 1st October, that Lord Curzon has swelled the country's debt, but he has rendered her great services too and spread British influence over India and its neighbouring States, such as Tibet, Afghanistan and Persia.

SANDHYA,  
Oct. 1st, 1905.

9. It is rumoured, says the *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 14th October, that the authorities intend to send a number of Bengali leaders to jail as prisoners of State in the same manner as the Natta Brothers were imprisoned a few years ago. The rumour may be true, because Government seems to have bid good-bye to its wits. The other day an English merchant told a Bengali gentleman that the very sight of Bengalis arouses in his mind a desire to whip them.



10. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 16th October writes as follows:—

DAILY HITAVADI.  
Oct. 16th, 1905.

The Partition.

The heart's desire of the Viceroy, who is an adept in the art of oppressing the weak, has been fulfilled. The sovereign power has trampled upon the weak subject people. It was we, Hindus and Musalmans, who mainly helped the English in establishing their power in Bengal, and we have now received our reward. Our mighty ruler, intoxicated with power, has divided our mother-country. But will Bengal be really divided? Will Western Bengal cease to have any connection with Eastern Bengal? The partition has kindled a fire in the hearts of the 7 crores of the inhabitants of Bengal. If we are men, if we have the least sense of self-respect, if the widespread agitation which now prevails in the country be not a sham, Bengal will not be really divided even if Lord Curzon divides it into a hundred parts.

Our ruler is the ruler of our country and not of our hearts. Has he any place in the heart of our hearts whence flow the sacred streams of love, affection, reverence and patriotism? He may divide our country into a thousand parts, bind our limbs by a thousand fetters, oppress and rebuke us at every step, but his dominion does not extend over our hearts. If our hearts do not fail, if we keep the service of our country constantly before our eyes and make it the highest aim of our lives, the efforts of our ruler will not be able to divide us, and the partition of Bengal must prove ineffectual. People may find eternal sleep, but never happiness, under the shadow of a foreign Government. It is the oppressions committed by a ruler which show a people the path of their welfare. This is no exaggeration. Do we not ourselves feel the truth of this? Have we not ourselves discovered the path of our welfare by the light of the thunderbolt, viz., the partition hurled on us by the English? Has not the partition bound us in a great unity? The blow given by the sovereign power has roused the sleeping powers of Bengal.

Let us at this critical moment, on this day of the display of unrestrained sovereign power, unite heart to heart to take the resolution to build up what our ruler has tried to demolish. We are peaceful Bengalis and do not know how to oppose and subdue the sovereign power by physical force and bloodshed. We shall have to gain our purpose by peaceful means. Let the ruler rule the country, and let us do our own work.

11. The same paper says that the *Englishman* newspaper published an incorrect report of an incident which had taken place at Sobhubazar, Calcutta, in connection with the *Swadeshi* movement, and has not published the

DAILY HITAVADI.

The *Englishman* and the *Swadeshi* movement.

letters which were sent to it contradicting that report. That incorrect report has so alarmed the *Pioneer* and the *Civil and Military Gazette*, that the former paper has even suggested the quartering of a punitive police in the northern part of Calcutta. It is hoped that Sir Andrew Fraser will not be led to give effect to the suggestion. In Bombay the writings of the *Times of India* gave rise to a coolie riot, and in Bengal the attitude of the *Englishman* is greatly straining the patience of the Bengalis and increasing police *zulm*. It is hoped the authorities will check the "bull-dog" class of Anglo-Indian newspapers at this time.

DAILY HITAVADI.

12. The same paper writes:—

Partition day.

To-day the Government of India is going to partition Bengal into two, wounding thereby the feelings of millions of its subjects. To-day the land, endeared to us by its thousand associations, is to be split in twain, owing to the cruel-heartedness of our rulers. To-day Nator, the capital of Pani Bhavani of blessed memory, Vikrampur, the mute witness of the ancient glory of Bengal, and Gour are to be amalgamated with Assam. This intolerable mental agony we must to-day silently bear. We cannot disobey the mandate of our rulers. But, without interfering in any way with the new administrative arrangements, we shall try to maintain, unaffected in the least, the solidarity of our national feeling. Even though the land of Bengal is cut in twain by a Government order, the Bengali race, the forty-five millions of Bengali-speaking people, will keep their hearts bound with an indivisible bond. What power has the Government to snap that bond?



We hear that the authorities fear that breaches of the peace will occur in Calcutta to-day, and special police arrangements are being made in consequence. All this is simply ridiculous. As far as we can gauge the public feeling, there is no risk of riots occurring. Where are the people to commit such riots? Because Government has split up their country, will the Bengalis take to smashing the heads of their own countrymen? We cannot, however, say what may happen if the police themselves trespass too far on the tolerance of the public. During the last two months no breaches of the peace occurred until the police themselves, urged on by the *Englishman* newspaper, took to committing *zulm* on the public. Considering how the police are now behaving, it will be a wonder if some affray does not arise. Wherever a group of passers-by assemble on the streets, the nearest Constable pokes into them with his baton, to tell them to disperse and pass on. Then again, some Constables are said to have threatened some shopkeepers that they would be fined unless they keep their shops open to-day. These are things which pretty clearly indicate from which party arises the greatest risk of a breach of the peace to-day.

SANDHYA,  
Oct. 17th, 1905.

13. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 17th October writes that Sir Andrew Fraser was hitherto the ruler of undivided Bengal, and he is now the ruler of a smaller and divided Province. Some flatterers are saying that His Honour consented to sacrifice so much of dignity and honour only for the good of the people. But has an Englishman any sense of dignity and honour? Englishmen come and serve in India for a time, and then go back to England reduced again to their original insignificance. The reduction of the territory under his charge is a gain in every way to Sir A. Fraser. For while the amount of his work is appreciably reduced, his remuneration remains what it was before, to the fraction of a penny. The idea that any Englishman would sacrifice self-interest for the sake of the people is ridiculous. In attempting to split up Bengal, the English have split themselves up into two. The prestige of the Lieutenant-Governor has seriously suffered. With this damaged dignity, the British *raj* has seriously lowered itself in the eyes of the public. But they do not understand these things. They simply pay attention to pecuniary considerations. A single country divided into two will mean twice the former opportunity of *looting*.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
Oct. 17th, 1905.

14. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 17th October writes that the official partition of Bengal was carried out the day before. The officials, maddened with the pride of power, have thus refused to listen to the representations and wailings of 45 millions of Bengalis. What have the Bengalis left undone to keep their mother-country undivided? There was no lack of anything that could be done by lawful means. Every one in this day of calamity tried to save the fatherland with all his power, money and interest. Still the authorities did not move an inch from their resolve. If they had thought that the Bengalis were human beings, they would surely never have behaved towards them in this inhuman fashion. The Government officials in this matter have refused to show towards the people of Bengal even that amount of sympathy which one shows towards one's cats and dogs. This insult will remain engraved on the memory of the Bengali race for all time.

Government has adopted various expedients with the intent of splitting the Bengali people in twain, but the spokesmen of the Bengalis emphatically declare that they will never be divided. The efforts of the Government to forcibly produce disunion have only brought to clearer relief the fraternal feeling between the different sections of the Bengali people.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
Oct. 18th, 1905.

15. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 18th October asks: Did not the Secretary of State for India request Lord Curzon to postpone the partition of Bengal? and is it not a fact that in reply to this request Lord Curzon said that the agitation against the partition was gradually subsiding? Unless Government comes forward with a statement on the subject, this paper will be obliged to give publicity to the many rumours which have obtained currency in this connection.



## VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

16. The *Jaina Gazette* [Arrah] of the 8th October notices the meetings held in Assam, Brindaban and Arrah, in order to express sympathy with the Bengalis and to support the *Swadeshi* movement. *JAINA GAZETTE*, Oct. 8th, 1905.
17. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 11th October publishes a song composed by Rabindranath Tagore, in which it is observed that the more the authorities will try to suppress the Bengalis the more will they rise; the more the Government will break the dictates of *dharma* the more will it be weakened. *SANDHYA*, Oct. 11th, 1905.
18. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 12th October publishes a poem from the pen of a Bengali lady, dwelling on the importance of commemorating the 16th day of October as an epoch-making day in the history of the Bengali race. *SANJIVANI*, Oct. 12th, 1905.
19. The same paper writes:—  
 Partition day. The day is approaching when the land of our birth will be partitioned. Let nobody grieve over it. Let Bengalis on this occasion show themselves as past the stage of grief and lamentation. The strength of God inspires all Bengal, and let everybody be filled with hope. *SANJIVANI*.
- On the 16th October a new life will come into being amongst Bengalis. On that day—
- (1) No fire will be lighted in the kitchen of any Bengali, male or female, Hindu or Musalman.
  - (2) All will live on fruits or milk or will fast and give up their minds to prayers to him who is King over Kings, who is the Saviour of the fallen, for His blessings upon the motherland.
  - (3) In every town and village in Bengal, Hindus and Musalmans, and if possible Christians will assemble and take upon themselves the resolve to endure terrible hardships, to eschew foreign-made things, and to devote their wealth and influence to the production of country-made goods.
  - (4) *Rakhis* (wristlets of yellow thread) will be put on the arms of males and females, and all Bengalis, whether Hindu or Musalman, whether of East Bengal or of West, will promise to use it in times of danger and stress.
  - (5) Mourning dress will be worn.
  - (6) All Bengalis should from that day resign all honorary posts under Government and let them all refrain from joining in any festivities for one year from that date.
20. The same paper notices meetings in favour of the *Swadeshi* movement at the following places:— *SANJIVANI*.
- Meetings in favour of the *Swadeshi* movement.
- Brahmanberia on the 26th September.
  - Agartala on the 28th September.
  - Kirtipasa (Barisal) on the 23rd September.
  - Balla (Dacca).
  - Teota (Manikganj subdivision).
  - Comilla on the 24th September.
  - Bankipur on the 23rd September.
  - Chandrabazar (Tippera) on the 3rd October.
  - Gabha, Banaripara, (Backerganj).
  - Kedarpur (Tangail).
  - Palang.
  - Kartikpur (Faridpur).
  - Bagbati (Pabna) on the 26th September.
  - Sonarang (Dacca).
  - Mitra (Manikganj subdivision).
  - Bharinga (Pabna) on the 25th September.
  - Raiganj (Dinajpore).
  - Bagnan (Howrah) on the 29th September.



DAILY HITAVADI,  
Oct. 12th, 1905.

21. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 12th October notices meetings in favour of the *Swadeshi* movement at the following places:—

Bhattapratap (Khulna) on the 3rd October.  
Koarpur (Faridpur) on the 30th September.  
Rampurhat.  
Khulna on the 27th September.  
Panchagarh (Jalpaiguri).  
Masakhali (Mymensingh) on the 27th September.  
Ranaghat (Nadia) on the 10th October.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
Oct. 14th, 1905.

22. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 14th October notices meetings in favour of the *Swadeshi* movement at the following places:—

Araibazar, Mohanpur (Dacca), on the 27th September.  
Pattan (Tipera) on the 29th September.  
Nalchhiti, Siddhakati (Backerganj).  
Bhagalpur on the 26th September.  
Chandaikola (Pabna) on the 27th September.  
Ullapara (Pabna).  
Krishnapur (Faridpur) on the 25th September.  
Balla (Dacca).  
Pania (Khulna), on the 26th September.  
Meral, Raina (Burdwan), on the 29th September.  
Jainagar (24-Parganas) on the 1st October.  
Baliati Manikganj Subdivision on the 27th September.  
Kasinathpur (Pabna) on the 1st October.  
Rangunia (Chittagong) on the 29th September.  
Raiganj (Dinajpur).  
Sonarang on the 10th October.

DAILY HITAVADI,  
Oct. 15th, 1905.

23. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 15th October notices meetings in favour of the *Swadeshi* movement at the following places:—

Jagulgachi (24-Parganas) on the 8th October.  
Haripal on the 1st October.  
Byabarta Hat (Tamluk) on the 7th October.  
Tamluk on the 6th October.  
Pipria (Tippera) on the 8th October.  
Mithani (Burdwan) on the 9th October.  
Meria and Sonatikri (Hooghly) on the 8th October.  
Chakpara (Rajshahi) on the 9th October.

SANDHYA,  
Oct. 14th, 1905.

24. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 14th October writes as follows:—

The 16th day of October: The 16th of October next will see the partition of Bengal, but on that day all Bengal will be united by true bonds of unity. A national fund will be opened on that day for establishing spinning and weaving machines in the country. This business will foster true unity among all Bengalis. The creation of two Lieutenant-Governorships in Bengal will be able to do us no harm. The partition will divide the English and not the Bengalis. The 16th of October next will be a day of rejoicing for us.

SANDHYA,  
Oct. 16th, 1905.

25. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 16th October contains the following advice to the Indians:—

Firstly, pay the English Government the respect which is its due, but do not stand before it as beggars. An Englishman pats or kicks a beggar according as it suits his purpose, but he will never give you anything but crumbs from his table.

Secondly, never believe that the English can sunder your religious and social ties by means of legislation.

Thirdly, give up all *firingi* ideas and proclivities. If you do so, the *firingi* articles will leave you as a matter of course.

Fourthly, do not insult India's goddess of prosperity. For you, she has got plenty of gifts in her store. Seek her protection and make a resolve never to go to *firingi* merchants for articles of clothing.



Fifthly, you must undertake the duty of educating your children. Establish your own schools. Try to make Western Science follow the wisdom of *rishis*. Education in English schools will make the Indian boys lose their self-respect and reduce the Hindus to the condition of slaves to *fringis*.

26. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 17th October notices meetings

DAILY HITAVADI,  
Oct. 17th, 1905.

Meetings in favour of the in favour of the *Swadeshi* movement at the following places:—

(1) Norendranath Sen's Square, off Sitaram Ghose's Street, Calcutta, on the 15th October.

(2) College Square, Calcutta, on the 15th October.

(3) Bodai, Dattapukur (24-Parganas), on the 13th October.

(4) Dasghara (Hooghly).

(5) Autshahi on the 8th October.

(6) Bombay on the 8th October.

(7) Bhandarhati (Hooghly) on the 10th October.

(8) Dacca Nannar.

(9) Abhayapuri (Goalpara) on the 28th September.

(10) Bhabia (24-Parganas) on the 7th October.

(11) Mazilpur, Joynagar, on the 4th October.

(12) Chandra (Hooghly).

(13) Nowhatta (Jessore) on the 10th October.

(14) Kadihati near Dum-Dum on the 15th October.

27. The same paper contains a detailed account of how the 16th of October was observed in Calcutta.

DAILY HITAVADI.

The 16th of October in Calcutta.

28. Under the head-line "An auspicious beginning," the *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 17th October announces that on the day before a sum of Rs. 25,000 was collected at

SANDHYA,  
Oct. 17th, 1905.

A national fund.

the house of Rai Pasupatinath Bose from petty subscriptions of a pice or two each from poor people like coolies, porters, coachmen, beggars and the like. Owing to the press of the crowd, the respectable classes could not contribute their quota. Subscriptions again will be received at the same place to-day between 4 to 7 P. M. by Kumar Manmathanath Mittra.

Meetings in favour of the *Swadeshi* movement.

29. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 18th October publishes short accounts of meetings held at the following places in favour of the

DAILY HITAVADI,  
Oct. 18th, 1905.

*Swadeshi* movement:—

Machimpur, Dacca.

Pussuri.

Palang, Faridpur.

Manikganj, Baliakhorka.

Kushtea.

Baratia, Manikganj.

Vikrampur, Bhayakar.

Naldha, Pabna.

Naldanga, Jessore.

Kesabpur, Hooghly.

Kadipur, Jessore.

Atgram, Rajshahi.

Dhaudia.

Kunjapore, Midnapur.

Sekandari, Midnapur.

Daivajnahati.

Sarulia, Jessore.

Batanalgram, Hooghly.

Khejura Gaherpur, Jessore.

Kuralgachi, Nadia.

Gauripur, Mymensingh.

30. The same paper regrets that the Prince of Wales is coming to Bengal at a time when the inhabitants of the

DAILY HITAVADI.

The Royal visit to Bengal.

country are in deep mourning in consequence of the partition, and are therefore least prepared to give His Royal Highness a fitting reception.

#### ASSAM PAPER.

31. The *Paridarsak* [Sylhet] of the 30th September discusses the merits of the different locations which have been suggested in connexion with the proposed removal of the Sylhet Shekhghat Charitable Dispensary to a

PARIDARSAK,  
Sept. 30th, 1905.

The Sylhet Shekhghat Charitable Dispensary.

central position in the town:—

(1) The quarter in which Dr. Biseswar Sen and others reside.—The acquisition of this plot of land will be expensive, and the location of the



dispensary here would cause inconvenience to patients coming from the other side of the river, who would have to pay for *doolies*, palanquins, etc., after landing at the river ghât.

(2) The Barrack office (the space to the south of the Model Girls' School) and the yard in front of it.—This Model Girls' School is a most prosperous institution, and it will soon be necessary to add to its existing accommodation by taking up some of the adjoining space.

3) The space near the old lane of the Durgakumar Pathsala.—The space to the north and west of the *pathsala* has already been fixed on for the location of a boarding-house for Musalman students.

(4) The godown of the barrack office and the quarters occupied by prostitutes near the *topkhana*.—This seems to be the best and most suitable site. The cost of acquiring this plot of land will not be expensive. Besides the police thana is hard by, so that cases of accidents arising from riots and the like can be quickly removed from the thana to the dispensary. The existence of a tank in the neighbourhood is an additional recommendation.

(5) Sylhet Kalighat is also a location which finds favour with some persons.

The same paper suggests the desirability of opening an out-door female ward in connexion with the Sylhet Shekghat Charitable Dispensary, with a competent diplomæd female Hospital Assistant in charge. The one midwife now kept by the Municipality is declared not to be sufficient for the needs of the town.

NARAYAN CHANDRA BHATTACHARYYA,

*Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

*The 21st October, 1905.*



**REPORT (PART II)**  
ON  
**NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL**  
FOR THE  
Week ending Saturday, 21st October 1905.

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## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (a)—Police.

1350. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* holds the *Englishman* responsible for what it calls "Police heroism in Harrison Road."

The Harrison Road riot.

It remarks that the *Englishman's* article on the "Lesson of Kalighat," in which, after reviewing the situation, it decided that the agitation over the partition and boycott was no more a matter for statesmen and economists, but for the police, appeared on Saturday and lo! on Tuesday it really became a matter for the police! The journal urges that a sifting enquiry should be made into the matter of the riot, and that if the students are found to blame, they should be punished by all means severely. But if it is found to have been the work of the police, the situation is very grave indeed, as it means nothing more than organized lawlessness under the auspices of the authorities. The *Patrika* is inclined to put the whole blame of the disturbance on the police, as it holds that picketing for the purpose of developing the indigenous industries of the country is not illegal, and the police have no power to molest the pickets. Mr. Halliday is exhorted to exercise due control over his subordinates, for the Grey Street riot has shown how easily they can establish a reign of terror in the city.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
6th Oct. 1905.

1351. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* defends the action of Babus Surendra Nath Banerji and Bhupendra Nath Bose from the attacks that have been made on them and holds that

*Ibid.*

in compromising the Harrison Road rioting case, in which some students were concerned, they were actuated chiefly by the consideration that, as the recognised leaders of the community, they would be indirectly held responsible by Government for any serious disturbance that might take place. They realised that one act of indiscretion would be followed by a serious and widespread conflagration, and if Government dreads a conflagration, still more do they.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
12th Oct. 1905.

As, however, that matter has been settled, the journal enquires if Government is going to take notice of the conduct of the police in the case. They are alleged to have arrested passers-by, who took no part in the affray, and looked them up till midnight. "And with these facts before him, the Police Commissioner was bold enough to redden his eyes at Babus Surendra Nath and Bhupendra Nath when they proposed a compromise," and yet after "roaring like lions at the beginning" the authorities "climbed down hurriedly."

The journal then refers to the Sova Bazar affray which occurred subsequently, and blames the police for interfering in what it considers to have been a private affair. The people, it says, are growing alarmed at the way the police have been let loose to do whatever they like. By their lawlessness the city has been threatened with anarchy, while the *Englishman* by its violent writings and garbled reports, is doing its best to foment racial animosity.

In its next issue, the *Patrika* asks Mr. Halliday what he intends to do with the constables who assaulted harmless passers-by and children in the Sova Bazar affair. He was very angry with the students for picketing, but they never committed such cowardly acts as some of his men did at Sova Bazar. "Surely we are living under British and not Russian rule!"

1352. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* refers to the arrest of Pundit Kashi Prasad Misra at Delhi, after a speech made by

The arrest of Pundit Kashi Prasad Misra.

him on the *Swadeshi* movement, as staggering.

"Is it possible that under the British Government, a man can be arrested by the police and sent to *hajrat* for making a speech on the industrial development of the country? And yet everything is possible under the administration of Lord Curzon and his Lieutenants. In Bengal they have not yet commenced arresting public speakers, but the police are trying to put the students to trouble for what is called picketing."

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
13th Oct. 1905.

1353. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, in noticing Sir Andrew Fraser's departure from Darjeeling on a tour of inspection,

Police rule in Calcutta.

while casually deprecating the cost of these official tours to the people who have to do honour to the ruler of the province,

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
14th Oct. 1905.



writes that no place needs the Lieutenant-Governor's presence just now more than Calcutta itself, which has been made over to police rule. The paper maintains that the Commissioner of Police should not interfere between picketers, shopkeepers, and purchasers, and should let them settle their own disputes. Picketing has not yet been proved to be illegal, and no instance has come to knowledge in which any serious quarrel has arisen between these three parties. Such affrays are, on the other hand, precipitated by the interference of the police, as the Sova Bazar and Harrison Road disturbances prove conclusively and, as if to warn the authorities of the risk they run by such interference, the journal oracularly delivers itself as follows:—

"The people here are gentle, and hence they have put up with these affairs but there is a limit to their patience. The plague riots showed that the rabble here could retaliate."

(d)—Education.

BENGALIEE,  
14th Oct. 1905.

1354. The *Bengalee* hears that the Secretary of State has sanctioned the scheme for the reorganization of the Provincial and Subordinate Educational Services, Bengal, and that the changes in the former service are likely to make it more attractive. It suggests that the prospects of the subordinate service should be made equally attractive, which is not the case at present. The system of treating all officers of the subordinate service alike, irrespective of academical distinction and efficiency, is most objectionable, and Government should accordingly fix the minimum pay of lecturers at Rs. 125 in subjects other than oriental, and at Rs. 100 in oriental languages.

The reorganization of the Educational Services.

(h)—General.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
6th Oct. 1905.

1355. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that in consequence of Mr. Cogswell, Controller of Printing, dismissing seven men who took a prominent part in the strike at the Government of India Press, 50 per cent. of the men absented from work on the following Tuesday. The *Patrika* holds that the seven men deserved no punishment whatsoever, and that it was Mr. Cogswell's want of sympathy that has revived the trouble in that department. The men propose to approach Mr. Cox, the Comptroller-General, who first enquired into their complaints, to redress their grievances.

The Government of India Press.

BENGALIEE,  
11th Oct. 1905.

1356. The *Bengalee*, criticising the reply of the Government of India to the Chamber of Commerce, writes that there is a ring of grim irony in the assurance that when the question of the establishment of a separate Appellate Court for the new Province comes up for decision, "one of the chief factors to be taken into consideration will be the wishes of the people of that Province." This is simply adding insult to injury. "We all know what treatment the wishes of the people have received at the hands of Lord Curzon's Government in connection with the partition question."

The Government of India's reply to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

BENGALIEE,  
11th Oct. 1905.

1357. The *Bengalee* complains that although there are four senior Indian officers at Sibsagar and Jorhat, one of whom had once officiated as Deputy Commissioner, the Hon'ble Mr. Fuller has appointed a young European Extra Assistant Commissioner of the 7th grade, Mr. Hughes, as Subdivisional Officer of Jorhat. Is it, asks the *Bengalee*, Mr. Fuller's deliberate intention to lower the Indian officers in the eyes of the people, or is the appointment of Mr. Hughes due to an oversight? An appointment like this cannot fail to create a feeling of discontent and uneasiness. The journal wonders if the Chief Commissioner, with his enlarged powers and jurisdiction, wants to bring home to the minds of the people that the Queen's Proclamation is a dead letter and that a European officer, by reason of his colour alone, must supersede Indian officers of even higher grades.

Mr. Fuller's partiality for colour.

BENGALIEE,  
12th Oct. 1905.

1358. The *Bengalee* considers the partition as it affects public officers. It repeats the old complaint against the Lieutenant-Governor that if he found he was unequal to the task of administering Bengal, he ought not to have accepted the position when

Public officers and the partition.



it was offered him. Taking the members of the Civil Service next, they would not have agreed to the project had they been consulted, as by their covenant they understood the Presidency of Bengal to consist of a single province in which they had an opportunity of distinguishing themselves, which will not be possible now. As for Provincial officers, particularly Deputy Magistrates, they will be in a far worse plight, for most of them belong to Western Bengal. The partition will unsettle public officers just as much as it has unhinged the public mind.

#### VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

1359. Reverting to the subject of the Royal visit, the *Amrita Bazar*

The Royal visit.

*Patrika* writes that a more inopportune time for the visit could not have been chosen, owing to the seething discontent prevailing in Bengal. As a result, there is no joy in the heart of the people at the prospect of the visit, and they will not be able to accord Their Royal Highnesses the hearty welcome which they would otherwise have done.

The journal now declares its astonishment at the address which the Bombay Corporation intends to present to the Prince, and enquires who is responsible for placing the fiction before His Royal Highness that "British rule in India makes no distinction of colour or creed." If it is regarded as the people's duty to accord a hearty welcome, it is equally a duty of the people not to welcome His Royal Highness with "lies on our lips." Do not let His Royal Highness carry home a wrong impression but let it be the duty of the people to lay all the facts clearly before him—their inability to rejoice at his visit owing to the partition, and some other equally retrograde measures of Lord Curzon, and their preference for some other rule than the one-man government which has proved disastrous.

1360. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* disapproves of the action of His

*Ibid.*

Majesty the King in requesting Lord Curzon to delay his departure until the reception of Their Royal Highnesses in India. If this has been done to soothe His Excellency's feelings, owing to his recent humiliation, the *Patrika* contends that His Majesty should show the Bengalis equal sympathy. They are his subjects, while the Viceroy is his temporary servant. Why, therefore, should His Majesty feel for his servant and not his subjects? To encourage such a ruler as Lord Curzon, is to encourage his successors to follow in his wake. The journal "deeply regrets that to be kind to a servant our Sovereign should be so unkind to his subjects."

1361. The *Bengalee* warns the public that certain unscrupulous Bengalis and up-country Muhammadans are palming off Del Croix's scents as country-made on unsuspecting mufassalities.

A note of warning.

BENGALÉE,  
5th Oct. 1905.

The journal also writes that a leading Bengali salt merchant of Coomer-tolly has raised the price of *karkatch* salt from Rs. 34 to Rs. 51 per hundred maunds, with the double object apparently of filling his coffers and putting pressure upon the people to use Liverpool salt.

1362. The *Bengalee* finding that its article on the assault on the

Tarring the Kidderpore Doctor.

BENGALÉE,  
5th Oct. 1905.

Kidderpore Doctor has been misconstrued, proclaims that it has not the smallest sympathy with law-breaking, no matter by whom committed, and is sorry Dr. A. N. Mookerjee should have been subjected to the insult put upon him. But it reiterates the opinion that the assault is not in any way connected with the *Swadeshi* movement.

1363. The *Bengalee* writes that the *Swadeshi* movement having survived

BENGALÉE,  
5th Oct. 1905.

The second phase of the *Swadeshi* movement.

the sneers of sceptics and the depreciation of interested parties, has now entered upon its second phase. The cry of coercion and terrorism has died away, the pickets have vanished out of sight, but with laurel wreathes entwining their brows, and still foreign manufactures find no purchasers and almost each day brings with it its list of failures of firms dealing in foreign goods.



The phase of agitation is about to be succeeded by that of organisation, and as the task is a stupendous one, the *Bengalee* feels entitled to look to the Government for guidance and help, and expects it to instruct its District Officers to co-operate with the leaders of the people in a movement which means more work and wages for the masses, and which promises to afford the strongest guarantee against famine and crime.

BEHAR HERALD  
7th, Oct. 1905.

1364. The *Behar Herald* is convinced that the *Swadeshi* movement is non-political in its character and, if successfully piloted, is destined to play an important part in the industrial regeneration of the country. There is no justification for calling it a boycott movement inspired by hostility towards the manufacturing industries of Great Britain.

BENGALIEE,  
11th Oct. 1905.

1365. The *Bengalee* renews its appeal to dealers in *Swadeshi* goods not to raise their prices, as that would compel men of moderate means to purchase foreign goods.

BENGALIEE,  
12th Oct. 1905.

1366. The *Bengalee* writes that while the 16th October 1905 will mark the severance of ancient ties and immemorial associations, it will be a day rich in the promises of a new and awakened national life, of deep and sustained brotherly love, and will be the starting-point of a mighty popular movement which will decide the destinies of the Bengalis. On this day will be laid the foundation stone of the Federation Hall, which will indissolubly unite the old and the new provinces and be the common meeting ground of East and West Bengal.

BENGALIEE,  
14th Oct. 1905.

1367. While mourning over the partition of Bengal on the 16th October, let there be rejoicing, says the *Bengalee*, over the birth of a new hope which is the precursor of a new nationality, and which will introduce into Indian politics a power which the Government will not be able to trifle with. The country will be in mourning, but it will not be the mourning of despair. The *Swadeshi* has saved the situation. In all *Sankirtan* processions and other demonstrations of sorrow which will be observed on the 16th, let the *Swadeshi* movement be prominently in evidence.

BENGALIEE,  
12th Oct. 1905.

1368. The *Bengalee* gloats over the failure of the importing houses to do any business on the last Lucky Day, and reckons that Lucky Day sales of Manchester piece-goods bid fair to become a dream and a memory.

BENGALIEE,  
12th Oct. 1905  
AND  
INDIAN MIRROR,  
14th Oct. 1905.

1369. In a letter to the Editor of *Justice*, which is reproduced in *extenso* in the *Bengalee* of the 12th and *Indian Mirror* of the 14th October, "An Indian," who is described as a "special correspondent," describes Lord Curzon's administration under the heading, "The curse of Lord Curzon's rule in India." The following are some of the objectionable passages taken from the letter:—

"If Lord Curzon be the greatest of Englishmen who ever deigned to come out to India, he certainly also is the best hated, if not the most execrated Viceroy we have ever had."

"Sir Henry Cotton had to go. Mean and despicable devices were resorted to by the Viceroy to deprive him of the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal."

"Again . . . as habitual distorter of truth that he is, he called it (the mission of Tibet) a peaceful mission . . . but like the contemptible coward that he is, he was only too glad to find Younghusband . . . was alone blamed for it."

"Lord Curzon, who is a despot by temperament, and a 'Great Moghul' by disposition—who is much too pig-headed ever to yield unless a Kitchener boxes his ears for him or a Brodrick, with a kick, orders him to hold his peace . . . has held the reins of government for the last five years and more, and ridden roughshod over the interests of the people with more unscrupulousness and greater heartlessness than even Nero could have ventured to do."

"This is rendered possible because the Secretary of State believes and accepts as true 'what an unprincipled and an ambitious Viceroy may choose to say in his despatches.'"

"He has no doubt servile and unscrupulous Lieutenants—men who are at his beck and call and would do any dirty work at his bidding. These are self-seeking office-hunters such as the present Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, Sir Andrew Fraser is, who would as soon serve the devil as God, their one object in life being self-aggrandisement."



Referring to the agitation against the partition of Bengal, the writer remarks:—

"He (Lord Curzon) will tell you, although he knows that it is a downright lie, that the agitation against his partition scheme is artificial."

"None but a consummate liar like Lord Curzon and his Lieutenant, Sir Andrew Fraser, a veritable psalm-singing devil, can characterize the agitation as artificial."

"These two, both of whom are sons of clergymen, and, therefore, according to the popular British belief, are dishonest scoundrels, have made up their minds."

Passing on to the boycott movement, the writer holds that the Indians are justified in cutting British goods and giving preference over them to every other class of goods, no matter where they come from, and adds:—"There is a strong and universal feeling in favour of this boycott movement which has begun in grim earnest. True, it is merely passive resistance, but who can say that from passive to active resistance is more than a short step?" Should this occur, the writer asks:—"What must be the fate of a handful of Englishmen against three hundred millions of men, infuriated by long years of political turpitude and unrelenting heartlessness?"

1370. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that it has been proposed that on the 16th instant, in order to commemorate the partition of Bengal National Fund will be opened, to which every man is exhorted to contribute at least his earnings for one day. The fund will be utilized to develop the national resources of the country by the establishment of cotton industries.

AMRITA BASAR  
PATRIKA,  
14th Oct. 1905.

The trustees elected are the Maharaja of Mymensingh, the Nawab of Bogra, Kumar Monmotha Nath Mitter, Kumar Satish Chandra Singh, and Babu Gojendra Nath Tagore. The treasurers are Kumar Monmotha Nath Mitter and Rai Pasupati Nath Bose, and the office of the fund will be located at No. 206, Cornwallis Street.

1371. The *Amrita Basar Patrika* regards the last work—the partition of Bengal—of Lord Curzon as an "unholy" work which "God can never bless." It was the result of His Excellency's "hatred," "unreasonable *aid*," and "malignant prejudice" against the Bengalis, apparently because they are "fully a match for the English in intelligence and morality, though not in barbarism." His Excellency alone did it, and his work is bound to produce confusion and disastrous results all along the line, the pity of it being that innocent persons will have to suffer for the 'follies' of others. But his crusade against the Bengalis has resulted in the *Swadeshi* movement, which, if properly engineered may pave the way for the salvation of India.

AMRITA BASAR  
PATRIKA,  
14th Oct. 1905.

1372. The *Bengalee* complains that a well-known European firm of Calcutta is mixing foreign sugar with country sugar and palming the mixture off as "manufactured out of Indian sugarcane only."

BENGALIE,  
14th Oct. 1905.

The journal threatens the firm that if it does not desist from perpetrating this fraud, it will communicate its name to the Commissioner of Police for necessary action.

1373. The *Bengalee* appeals to local *Swadeshi* Committees to direct their attention to the vital question of the supply of *dhoties* and *saries* for which Manchester has now the monopoly. There are in many districts a large remnant of the weaving class who, with a little encouragement in the way of advances in money and yarn and the hire of fly-shuttles, could do much to supply local wants. The possibilities of the hand-loom industry in Bengal are infinite and, furthermore, it has been proposed to start a cotton mill in the province to meet the new demand. Verily, Manchester has a bad lookout before it in Bengal!

BENGALIE,  
14th Oct. 1905.

1374. From the fact that there were no Lucky Day sales, the *Bengalee* gathers evidence that the *Swadeshi* movement has taken a firm hold on the popular mind, but still it is not altogether free from perils. The rock ahead is the question of supply, and this must be solved by the starting of cotton mills and the fostering by local Committees of the weaving industry.

BENGALIE,  
15th Oct. 1905.



BENGALUR,  
15th Oct. 1905.

1375. The *Bengalee* calls on the *Englishman* to furnish an idea of the business done on Lucky Day, since it holds that Lucky Day sales and the "some" was done. The *Bengalee's* information is that not more than 500 packages of piece-goods were ordered, and among these were some the *bona fide* character of which has been impugned. It is therefore useless for the *Englishman* to attempt to explain away the absolute blankness of the Lucky Day sales. "Not all the King's men nor all the King's scribes will again set on the wall the Humpty Dumpty of the Manchester piece-goods trade again."

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
15th Oct. 1905.

1376. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* says that it is fortunate that, notwithstanding the sensational writings and suggestions of the *Englishman* and *Pioneer*, the one that the *Swadeshi* had become a matter for police interference and the other that punitive police should be quartered upon Northern Calcutta, the Government has kept its head cool. Acting on the suggestion of the *Englishman*, the police immediately "created the Harrison Road scandal."

The journal learns that there is no truth in the *Englishman's* statement that Government has asked the heads of Colleges to expel the students who were involved in the Harrison Road affair.

BENGALUR,  
15th Oct. 1905.

1377. The *Bengalee* writes that the feeling has been growing in this country that along with the revival of local industries and the creation of new ones, an attempt, even on a small scale, should be made to give a stimulus to the trade between India and other Asiatic countries, particularly Japan, with whom it is desirable to establish a tie. With this object in view, a proposal has been under consideration to open an Asiatic Stores as a joint-stock company with limited liabilities.

BEHAR TIMES,  
19th Oct. 1905.

1378. The *Behar Times* is convinced that whatever may be the result of the *Swadeshi* movement, it will certainly not result in the withdrawal of the Partition Proclamation. It has, however, spoilt all chances of Bengal being raised to a Governorship. The journal points out to its people the folly of following the Bengalis.

OFFICE OF THE INSPR.-GENL.  
OF POLICE, L. P.

WRITERS' BUILDINGS,

The 21st October 1905.

F. C. DALY,

Asst. to the Insp.-Genl. of Police, L. P.